

Stephen Thorpe  
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Aug 10th 2018

Via ECFS  
Marlene H. Dortch, Secretary  
Federal Communications Commission  
445 12th Street, S.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20554

**Re: In the Matter of Petition of USTelecom for Forbearance Pursuant to  
47 U.S.C. Section 160(c); WC Docket No. 18-141; Category 1**

Dear FCC,

My Name is Stephen Thorpe and I am the CEO of Aeneas Internet and Telephone. We are a CLEC located in Jackson Tennessee. We are a relatively small company that offers a wide variety of Internet and Telephone services mainly in West Tennessee, but offer services state wide. We strive ourselves on our customer services and personal touch which is why people choose our services over the BIG telcos like ATT, Spectrum, etc. People want to talk to real people not get an automated system by dialing a 800 number. This is what Aeneas provides and provides people with competition and choice in their ISP / phone services. We are in ATT territory and for many of our customers we rent UNE loops from ATT and put our own Internet and telephone services on them. The forbearance petition that is up for a vote will be extremely detrimental to my business. It will cause price hikes and service interruptions with the abandonment of copper based services. I urge you to NOT pass this petition and keep Aeneas and many other CLECS able to compete against the major telecom industry. This can have significant impact on small businesses like mine and is a major step backwards for our industry and frankly speaking our country. Thank you for your time and consideration.

Stephen Thorpe